



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

September 1, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 179 (Ting): Budget Act of 2022 – **REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), I wish to thank your Administration and the Legislature for the additional water and drought resilience funding in AB 179 (Ting), including a significant investment in our recycled water program, now known as Pure Water Southern California, additional funding for the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to expand the Save Our Water campaign, and funding to help public agencies invest in watershed resilience projects.

The \$80 million for Pure Water Southern California is greatly appreciated and will make it possible to accelerate the design and construction of this vital recycled water project in partnership with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County at a scale that is needed for the region to adapt to the hotter and drier conditions we are already seeing due to climate change.

We support the \$66.5 million for DWR to make watershed resilience grants to public agencies. This funding will help improve regional flexibility and access to alternative water supplies for water agencies during this drought emergency. We also support the additional funding for DWR's Save Our Water Campaign. As you know, Metropolitan's mandatory conservation measures went into effect in June, and in response, we are coordinating our drought outreach with the department in order to amplify our shared message about the essential need to conserve our state's precious water resources during this drought emergency.

We thank you for this funding and respectfully request your signature on AB 179 (Ting) which will help Southern California navigate this historic drought and enhance our future water supply reliability and resilience. Should you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at AdelH@mwdh2o.com or Kathy Viatella in our Sacramento office at kviatella@mwdh2o.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adel Hagekhalil".

Adel Hagekhalil
General Manager

cc: The Honorable Philip Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
The Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
Christy Bouma, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Angela Pontes, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Shy Forbes, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee
Joanne Roy, Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee